

Monday, October 27 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Ben Lyon
Box 1312 Union College
Schenectady, NY 12308

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445 12th Street, NW
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John Bolen
2804 Carnaby Ln
Flower Mound, TX 75028

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David Grau
13320 Bent Spur Trl
Elbert, CO 80106

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Philip Kritzman
5615 N Kostner Ave
Chicago, IL 60646

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Joshua Snyder
200 Nygard St.
Madison, WI 53713

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William Culver
3503 Hemstead Ct
Hephzibah, GA 30815

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Quincy Styke
2601 N. John B Dennis Hwy
Kingsport, TN 37660

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Joshua Dill
2325 W Rockwood St
Springfield, MO 65807

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David Andersen
13323 Washington Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90066

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Bill Mentzel
19500 180th Ave
Big Lake, MN 55309

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Edward Holt
7906 Millvale Rd
Chesterfield, VA 23832

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Sincerely,

Judie Brunsen
1417 W. 17th St.
Portales, NM 88130

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Dear Chairman Powell,

Asside from the traditional hum-drum argument about the fact that I like to record television to watch later, etc etc. I think the broadcast flag is flat out stupid because it will have the chilling effect of stifling innovation. The freedom to watch moving pictures projected inside a noisy box is not what has been fought for all these years, in the US. It is the freedom to inovate and do new different and exciting things. If we lock ourselves to a technological requirement, we will destroy our ability to do new things. Just because a certain business model isn't working right, does not mean it is time for the government to step in and say well this model needs to work right or its illegal. There are existing copyright laws. They should be enforced. Since the Internet went mainstream, the media corporations have tried as hard as possible to turn my computer into a television, don't let them win, allow me to continue to interact and innovate.

BEGIN boilerplate argument that I also agree with.

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Sincerely,

Kevin McAllister
1250 Boone Avenue
Abington, PA 19001

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Sincerely,

Albert Fraser
5 hemlock drive
Long Valley, NJ 07853

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Sincerely,

Dana MacMillan
121 Oak St.
Camarillo, CA 93010

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Sincerely,

Paul Williams
6666 scenic dr
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

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Cliff Nash
1656 Harold Apt. C
Houston, TX 77006

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Thomas Summerall
862 Union Village Rd.
Norwich, VT 05055

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Patrick Scarry
9 treeline dr
O Fallon, MO 63366

Monday, October 27 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Christopher L. Meadows
13001 Chameleon Dr
Jacksonville, FL 32223

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Sincerely,

James Curry
9690 Hwy 150 / PO Box 223
Greenville, IN 47124

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Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Michael Wean
431 Prairie Ave.
Wilmette, IL 60091

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Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

George Newton, Jr.
5111 South 700 East
Waldron, IN 46182